

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

RSR-01 /090 W

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R 251655Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8668

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1100

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, GY

SUBJECT: BURNHAM ON JAGAN'S PLANS

REF: GEORGETOWN 1088

1. IN COURSE CONVERSATION YESTERDAY I ASKED PRIME MINISTER BURNHAM WHAT HE THOUGHT CHEDDI JAGAN WOULD DO NOW THAT THE ELECTIONS ARE OVER. BURNHAM SAID HE WAS NOT SURE. HE DID KNOW, HE CLAIMED, THAT JAGAN HAD PROPOSED ORGANIZING A MASSIVE MARCH ON GEORGETOWN BY HIS ADHERENTS IN THE CORENTYNE, SOMEWHAT LIKE CURRENT LIBYAN MARCH ON EGYPT. ACCORDING TO BURNHAM, THE PPP EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAD VETOED THIS IDEA, FOR REASONS HE DID NOT EXPLAIN.

2. BURNHAM WENT ON TO SAY THAT WHEN JAGAN FINALLY COMES TO TALK WITH HIM, THAT IS WHEN HE ACCEPTS THE PM'S CONCILIATORY GESTURE OF PROPOSING DISCUSSIONS ON HOW BEST TO DEVELOP GUYANA, HE, JAGAN, WILL PROPOSE THAT THE COUNTRY BE SPLIT INTO FOUR SOVEREIGN STATES, THE "THREE COUNTIES" AND THE INTERIOR. THESE WOULD THEN JOIN TOGETHER IN A FEDERATION OF GUYANA IN WHICH EACH WOULD HAVE EQUAL REPRESENTATION. BURNHAM, OF COURSE, WILL NOT ENTERTAIN ANY SUCH SUGGESTION.

3. COMMENT: BURNHAM HAS CLAIMED IN THE PAST TO "BE REPRESENTED" IN THE PPP'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. CERTAINLY, HE HAS SEEMED WELL

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INFORMED ON THAT ENTITY'S DISCUSSIONS AND ON THE PARTY'S PLANS

AND POLICIES. IF BURNHAM HAS BEEN INFORMED ACCURATELY IN THIS
INSTANCE, IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT JAGAN APPARENTLY HAS BEGUN TO
PLAN FOR HIS EVENTUAL TALKS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, WHICH
SUGGESTS THAT ALL HIS TALK ABOUT CHALLENGING THE ELECTION
RESULTS IS JUST THAT--TALK.

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